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FLORIDA BOARD OF EDUCATION
LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER
VALENCIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
ORLANDO, FLORIDA
OCTOBER 24, 2002

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Chairman F. Philip Handy convened the meeting of the Florida Board of Education in the Learning Resource Center, Valencia Community College, Orlando, Florida, at 10:40 a.m., October 24, 2002, with the following members present: Linda J. Eads, T. Willard Fair, Julia Johnson, William L. Proctor, and Carolyn K. Roberts.

1. Greetings

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. President Sanford "Sandy" Shugart, Valencia Community College, welcomed members of the Board and guests to the second largest community college and the second largest producer of A.A. degrees in Florida. He described the College and its education partners in the community. He said that every decision at Valencia Community College was tested by its impact on student learning. He said it was the students' experience that mattered, not the institution's experience. He introduced Dr. Robert Judson, President, Pasco-Hernando Community College and Chairman, Council of Presidents for Community Colleges; Dr. Tom Gamble, President, Brevard Community College; and Dr. Steven Wallace, President, Florida Community College at Jacksonville.

2. Member Reports and Remarks

Dr. Eads said that she had been pleased to join Secretary Horne in recognizing the "A" and "B" schools in Dade County. She said the students were especially proud of their recognition.

3. Chairman's Report

Mr. Handy said that he had had numerous speaking engagements around the State to discuss the three education Constitutional Amendments and the work of this Board over the past year. He had also attended several school recognition ceremonies. He reported on a trip to Australia where he had visited the Department of Education in Sydney, and had learned that 94 percent of high school students graduate, and student achievement is tested every year.

4. Recognition: Ms. Carol Russ, Principal, Washington Shores Elementary School

Secretary Horne recognized Ms. Carol Russ, Principal, Washington Shores Elementary School, for the Board's "Apple" Award. He said she had been the Principal for six years. Washington Shores was a "D" school in 2001; it is now a "B" school. He said that 93 percent of its students receive free or reduced-price lunches. More importantly, as the Department initiates its Assistance Plus Program, Ms. Russ has

offered her assistance to three "F" schools, two in Orange County and one in Leon County. He said she is very supportive of her teachers and provides "can do" leadership.

Ms. Russ thanked Secretary Horne and the Board members for this award. She said, however, that the school's success was a team effort; she thanked members of her staff and acknowledged the support provided by the Orange County School Superintendent's Office.

5. Secretary's Report

Secretary Horne reported that the search for the K-12 Chancellor was still underway. He said he felt he should personally review thoroughly the candidates' credentials, as well as receiving detailed information from the Search Firm. He advised the Board that the reorganization of the Department was now complete and that he would present a full report on the reorganization at a future meeting. As the changes are implemented, he would be able to identify any problems yet to be addressed. He said the reorganization had gone better than he had expected.

Externally, he said he had assumed the responsibility to advocate the positions of the Board on the three education-related Constitutional Amendments on the ballot. He said he had met with all the newspaper editorial boards and had been a guest at most of the television stations in the State. He had been in Washington to meet with the Secretary of Education, and to discuss the "No Child Left Behind" legislation. He had been at the Schultz Center for a Principal Leadership Seminar, and had addressed the "Retired Presidents Association" at the invitation of Dr. Proctor. He had also debated Senator Graham about Amendment 11 at Florida Gulf Coast University. He noted that as he traveled about the country, many states were envious of Florida and its education initiatives.

Mr. Fair moved that the Board approve the Secretary's Report. Mrs. Roberts seconded the motion.

Ms. Johnson commended the Secretary for his speaking engagements. She said he was receiving broad media coverage for these events. She inquired about his feel for the process of the K-12 Chancellor search. Secretary Horne said he was pleased with the balance in the membership of the Chancellor Review Team and his own expanded role in the background checks.

There were no further questions, and members of the Board concurred.

6. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held August 29, 2002

Mr. Fair moved that the Board approve the Minutes of the Meeting held August 29, 2002. Dr. Proctor seconded the motion. Dr. Eads asked that the Minutes be corrected to reflect that she had made the motion to approve the Secretary's recommendation to select Mr. Armstrong as the Chancellor of Community Colleges. Members of the Board concurred in the Minutes, as corrected.

7. Delivery System Action Items

Mrs. Roberts moved that the Board approve the following items, as presented. Mr. Fair seconded the motion, and members of the Board concurred.

A. Approval of the 2002-2003 University Branch Campus Operating Budgets

Dr. Proctor noted that the budgets showed minimal increases in the percent of student credit hours with significantly greater percentage increases in expenditures. He inquired about these disproportionate increases. Mr. Handy said a report on new programs was required to be made to the Legislature. He asked that staff provide the answers to Dr. Proctor's questions when they presented that report.

The Board approved the 2002-2003 Branch Campus Operating Budgets for FSU, USF, FAU, UWF, UCF, and FIU, as approved by each university's Board of Trustees, as presented.

B. Approval of Request to Surplus and Dispose Property, Request to Acquire Property, IFAS/UF

The Board approved the request to surplus and dispose of approximately 196 acres of land at Bradenton, Manatee County, Florida, and approximately 21 acres of land at Dover, Hillsborough County, Florida. Further, the Board approved the acquisition of approximately 473 acres of land in Hillsborough County, Florida, and authorized the Chancellor, Division of Colleges and Universities, or the Chancellor's designee, to execute the documents required by the Department of Environmental Protection for the transactions, as presented.

C. Approval of Tenure Nominations as a Condition of Employment

The Board approved the award of tenure as a condition of employment to the nominees, as approved by their respective Boards of Trustees, as presented.

D. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement Supplement between the Florida Board of Education and the Graduate Assistants United, FAMU

The Board approved the Collective Bargaining Agreement Supplement between the Florida Board of Education and the FAMU Graduate Assistants United through January 6, 2003, as presented.

- E. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement Supplement between the Florida Board of Education and the Graduate Assistants United, UF

The Board approved the Collective Bargaining Agreement Supplement between the Florida Board of Education and the UF Graduate Assistants United through January 6, 2003, as presented.

- F. Approval of Collective Bargaining Agreement Supplement between the Florida Board of Education and the Graduate Assistants United, USF

The Board approved the Collective Bargaining Agreement Supplement between the Florida Board of Education and the USF Graduate Assistants United through January 6, 2003, as presented.

- G. Approval of FBOE Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$9 Million FGCU Certificates of Participation, Series 2002A, to Finance Phase V, North Lake Village Student Residences

The Board approved the financing plan and adopted a resolution authorizing the issuance of fixed or variable rate, tax-exempt certificates of participation by the Florida Gulf Coast University Foundation, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$9 million, provided that the housing system debt service coverage ratio is not less than 1.20, as presented.

- H. Approval of FBOE Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$6.5 Million FSU Parking Facility Revenue Refunding Bonds to Refinance All or a Portion of Certain Outstanding University Bonds

The Board adopted a resolution requesting the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration of Florida to issue revenue bonds on behalf of Florida State University, in an amount not exceeding \$6.5 million for the purpose of refinancing all or a portion of the outstanding \$8 million State of Florida, Board of Regents, Florida State University Parking Facility Revenue Bonds, Series 1992, as presented.

- I. Approval of FBOE Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$7 Million FAMU Student Apartment Facility Revenue Refunding Bonds to Refinance All or a Portion of Certain Outstanding University Bonds

The Board adopted a resolution requesting the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration of Florida to issue revenue bonds on behalf of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, in an amount not exceeding \$7 million for the purpose of refinancing all or a portion of the outstanding \$7.4 million State of Florida, Board of Regents, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University Student Apartment Facility Revenue Bonds, Series 1992, as presented.

- J. Approval of FBOE Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of Not to Exceed \$17.5 Million UCF Housing Revenue Refunding Bonds to Refinance All or a Portion of Certain Outstanding University Bonds

The Board adopted a resolution requesting the Division of Bond Finance of the State Board of Administration of Florida to issue revenue bonds on behalf of the University of Central Florida, in an amount not exceeding \$17.5 million for the purpose of refinancing all or a portion of the outstanding \$19,080,000 State of Florida, Board of Regents, University of Central Florida Student Apartment Facility Revenue Bonds, Series 1992, as presented.

- K. Approval to Use Academic Improvement Trust Funds

The Board approved the requests from Lake-Sumter Community College, Pensacola Junior College, and St. Johns River Community College to use funds from the Academic Improvement Trust Fund, as presented.

8. Approval of Teacher Quality Initiative

Secretary Horne explained the importance of high quality teachers in obtaining excellent student achievement and performance. He described Florida's aging teacher workforce and the need for approximately 160,000 new teachers within the next 10 years. He reviewed the reasons teachers gave for leaving the profession and the factors that would encourage them to return. He described teacher recruitment in Florida. He said the Florida Board's highest priority was increasing the supply of highly qualified K-12 teachers. He reviewed strategies for teacher retention. He noted that teacher pay scales were set in the 1920's; there were too few ladder differentials in the pay scale. He said there were also few opportunities for career advancement. He said compensation should be market-driven; teachers needed to regain their esteem within the public's perception. He described current teacher-focused initiatives in Florida, including the Legislature's Performance Pay Policy. He offered several recommendations, including increasing the number of teacher candidates; removing the five year cap from the DROP retirement program; implementing a Leadership Teacher Program; doubling the Excellent Teaching Program and the Teacher Advancement Program; and expanding the principal leadership and incentive programs. Finally, he proposed that promotional steps be added for teachers to advance in their careers and earn performance pay increases.

Ms. Johnson said she hoped Secretary Horne was talking with teachers about these ideas. Secretary Horne concurred. He said that until the start of the Legislative Session in March, he would be meeting with teachers, principals, and other interested parties to refine these ideas for legislative implementation. He added that salaries were a key factor in teacher retention nationally. He said his proposal was more focused on incentives, rather than penalties. He said local control would continue; he proposed to affect change using the "carrot" approach. Mrs. Roberts emphasized the importance to the profession of opportunities for advancement and a professional pay plan. Mr. Fair inquired what guidance the Secretary sought from the Board. Secretary Horne said he sought the guidance that his direction was correct.

Dr. Proctor said his concern was the immediacy of the need, and the prospect for significant growth in the numbers of teachers. He inquired whether there were priorities in the suggested steps and whether the Board should debate the priorities for action. He said if the Board's first priority was to address beginning teacher salaries, the issues were how to proceed, the costs and next steps. Dr. Eads recommended taking a comprehensive approach; it would not help to think sequentially as some activities would occur simultaneously. Mr. Fair moved that the Board adopt the conceptual framework; next steps would be setting priorities and determining quantification. Dr. Eads seconded the motion. Dr. Proctor suggested that the motion include the Teacher Education Certification Program.

Mr. Handy suggested that more time should be spent on the supply, i.e., the training, of teachers; issues of teacher competence were after the fact. He said it was particularly important to concentrate on the training of minority teachers. He noted that teacher positions were filled; these teachers were not necessarily retained.

There were no further comments, and members of the Board concurred.

9. Review of 2003-2004 K-20 Budget

Mr. Handy said in light of the ballot initiatives on education, it would be irresponsible to present a budget that might not be meaningful. Secretary Horne presented an overview of the issues to be considered in a K-20 Budget within the context of recent successes in education, including increased opportunities for student acceleration; student preparation for postsecondary education; increased student access through financial aid and distance learning; increased minority access as a result of One Florida; increased access to new baccalaureate and graduate degree programs; and increased student completion of programs. He described the increase in the number of higher-graded schools, with rising standards and greater accountability. He noted that the Board had presented the first K-20 Budget last year. In developing the next K-20 Budget, there were known costs, including costs for enrollment growth, costs to continue, and costs to fund the Strategic Imperatives. He also reviewed the funding history for the sectors within K-20. Finally, he reviewed the budget implications of the three education Constitutional Amendments.

Secretary Horne noted that Texas and North Carolina were experiencing similar enrollment growth. Florida's student enrollment was funded by the Florida Education Finance Program, which established a base student allocation with special add-ons. Dr. Proctor also inquired about the distribution of PECO money; Secretary Horne replied that these funds were distributed by the Legislature pursuant to Florida Statutes.

Mr. Handy inquired if the calculation for enrollment growth included tuition growth. Secretary Horne said that was included in the calculation. He also inquired about the means to address the proposal for reduced class size and whether this would be achieved statewide, by county or by school. Secretary Horne said that students could be redistributed within the counties to achieve the required class sizes.

Dr. Proctor also inquired about the timing for implementation and the interpretation of issues in the Amendments. Without some answers, it would be very difficult to project the funding requirements. Secretary Horne said this Board and staff had to present the first iteration of the K-20 request budget; he was not yet prepared to make those recommendations. Mr. Handy added that this Board should frame the appropriate budget issues, particularly since the Class Size Amendment presented the largest variables.

10. Updates

A. Just Read, Florida

Ms. Mary Laura Openshaw, Director, Just Read, Florida!, said there were many success to report; she asked to reserve time at the next meeting to give a thorough presentation. She introduced Mr. Patrick Galatowitsch, Principal, Rolling Hills Elementary School, who had helped his school improve from a "D" school to a "B" school by making reading a first priority. Mr. Galatowitsch said he was pleased to be recognized for the accomplishments of his students. He said the school was 80 percent African-American, 7 percent white. The students' Standard Test Scores had also improved. He said he was pleased to report a low teacher turnover at his school; teachers were focused on instruction and student achievement. They were also involved in significant reading intervention to give the students special reading instruction. He said it was very difficult to find teachers who knew how to teach reading. He said the school also had a significant Family Involvement Program.

Dr. Eads inquired about the use of technology at the school. Mr. Galatowitsch said they used technology for assessment of student data. He also advised the Board that the school was a Title I school for which it received \$400,000 in its \$3 million budget. Dr. Proctor inquired about the requirements for certified teachers under the "No Child Left Behind" Act on the school's Title I status, noting that the legislation required all teachers in a Title I school to be certified. Mr. Galatowitsch reported that it was no real threat.

B. Assistance Plus

Ms. Andrea Willett, Bureau Chief, Improving Academic Standards and School Performance, described the Assistance Plus program and its focus on school improvement and school flexibility. She described the assistance provided to the state's 64 lowest performing schools, including school matches with higher performing schools. She described the reading assistance, including new reading coaches. She said the districts were providing assistance; there were new volunteers to the schools; the community colleges and the universities were also involved. The Department was spending \$4 million on reading coaches; \$7.3 million in Title I School Improvement Funds had been redirected to this effort. The

Department would hold a Mini-Summit in January 2003, "Gauging Progress." There were no questions.

C. "No Child Left Behind"

Ms. Betty Coxe, Deputy Commissioner for Educational Programs, reported on the status of the Federal legislation. She said the handout included the pertinent information. She quoted President Bush on this sweeping legislation, "These reforms express my deep belief in our public schools and their mission to build the mind and character of every child, from every background, in every part of America." She described the major components of the NCLB funding, and how Florida meets the requirements. Ms. Coxe explained how the goals of the Act were consistent with Florida's A+ plan for Education and how the Act lined up with the Board's Strategic Imperatives.

Dr. Proctor said he understood that the State was to submit an approved definition of a certified teacher. He said he wanted to be sure that teachers were certified on content. Ms. Coxe explained that Florida's certification was content-driven, based on the demonstration of specific knowledge. The federal legislation requires that all teachers in the core academic content areas are to be qualified in field within a certain time period. There are professional development funds available to teachers to enable them to meet the high standards requirement. The school districts are obligated to work with the Title I schools to be sure they have teachers who meet the requisite qualifications.

Dr. Proctor also inquired about the consequences for teachers who passed the content exam, but failed the professional exam. Ms. Coxe explained that you would not have that scenario in Florida in the elementary grades; it might happen in the secondary grades.

Mr. Handy thanked Ms. Coxe for her report. He said that Florida was well on its way, with school assessment and school accountability already in place.

11. Miscellaneous

Mr. Handy said the Board still needed to adopt the 2003-2004 Budget Request. He noted that the calendar included a December 10, 2002, meeting; he inquired whether the Board should meet sometime in November. The Board agreed that its next meeting would be held in Tallahassee, Tuesday, December 10, 2002.

12. Adjournment

Having no further business, Chairman Handy adjourned the regular meeting of the Florida Board of Education at 3:00 p.m., October 24, 2002.

F. Philip Handy,
Chairman

Mary-Anne Bestebreurtje,
Corporate Secretary